



Representatives of the socialist party of Lincoln, Neb., have sent to Secretary of State Elihu Root the following protest: "At a meeting of local Lincoln socialist party of America, held today, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted: Whereas, In the matter of the hearing before United States Commissioner Foote, in the case of Christian Ansoff Rudowitz, a Russian political refugee, Commissioner Foote has ruled that said Rudowitz shall be turned over to the Russian authorities; and whereas, we understand the case now goes to the department of state for action; therefore be it resolved, that we affirm our belief that any offense which may have been committed by said Rudowitz were matters of military necessity, and under orders from a revolutionary organization, during a time of internal war, and were consequently of a political nature. Be it further resolved, that a nation which has ever prided itself on being the refuge of the oppressed of all the world, the nation that sheltered and honored and was honored by Carl Schurz and countless other political refugees of all climes, should not prostitute itself by violating its glorious traditions of freedom, in surrendering said Rudowitz to the Russian authorities, and that we protest against allowing the deportation of this Russian patriot, Christian Ansoff Rudowitz, and ask you not to allow his extradition."

King Edward is reported to be ill—the recurrence of an old and troublesome complaint.

Charles M. Schwab, former president of the steel trust, appeared before the tariff committee at Washington. He said that the conditions that existed nine years ago would have permitted a reduction in the steel schedule but he said that since then the cost of every item entering into the manufacture of steel rails had increased to such an extent that present conditions must change to permit tariff reduction. He made this statement after being confronted with the letter which he wrote to Henry C. Frick May 16, 1899, stating that rails were being made for less than \$12 a ton, or nearly \$7 less than they sold for in England.

In the senate Senators Carter and Depew delivered speeches in favor of the postal savings bank bill. After referring to the various endorsements by political conventions and other organizations of the people of the postal savings banks, Mr. Carter said that "while there are only 1,452 savings banks, there are more than 61,000 postoffices, 40,000 of which are money order offices." He declared that postal savings banks are in operation in practically all civilized countries of the world, except the United States. Mr. Carter read a circular signed by Lucian Teter, chairman of the committee on postal savings banks of the American Bankers' Association, calling on the bankers to oppose the bill pending in the senate for the establishment of postal savings banks. "I acquit the American Bankers' Association of the statements made in this circular," said Mr. Carter. He then read from the circular, which requested members of the American Bankers' Association to present the enclosed arguments against postal savings banks to the local newspapers, requesting that they be used as editorials or

"write ups." This circular, the senator said, exhibiting the printed slips, has the following cautionary notice: "Please remove this slip before handing to newspapers." "The purpose of this cautionary notice," said Mr. Carter, "was to have the local banker slip up on the blind side of the paper and to relieve this committee from responsibility for loose statements used." He added that he would publish all of these circulars in the Congressional Record so that they could be seen by the public.

President Roosevelt sent to congress a special message concerning the conduct of the negro soldiers at Brownsville, Texas. In that message he suggested that all negro soldiers who would confess be reinstated. Senator Foraker introduced a sweeping resolution calling on the secretary of war for various information concerning the Brownsville affair. The resolution went over.

The United States supreme court, speaking through Justice Day, ruled that E. H. Harriman can not be required to answer the questions concerning certain dealings in stock which Frank Kellogg put to him during a recent investigation into the Harriman mergers. A similar decision was also handed down in the case of Otto Kuhn of the firm of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., who was asked the same questions, but refused to answer, following Harriman's lead. The decision is regarded as a sweeping victory for Harriman, and another blow to the powers of the interstate commerce commission. Upon the basis of this decision the government may start as many investigations as it pleases into the workings of the big transportation lines, but will never be able to discover any more than the managers of the lines are willing to tell. Justice Holmes, Harlan and McKenna concurred.

Senator Dick of Ohio has introduced a resolution recommending that Americans at home and abroad celebrate Lincoln's birthday, February 12, in an appropriate manner.

The annual session of the National Civic Federation was brought to a close by a dinner in the evening in New York City. An Associated Press dispatch says: "It was a brilliant banquet which grouped together at one of the five score of individual tables President-elect Taft and Mrs. Taft, Samuel Gompers, August Belmont, A. B. Garrettsen, chief of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors; Melville E. Ingalls, former president of the Big Four railroad; President Seth Low of the Federation, and Mrs. Low; Former Judge and Mrs. Alton B. Parker, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Carnegie. At other tables at the banquet hall of the Hotel Astor sat employers and many employees of corporations. John D. Rockefeller and Frank B. Kellogg, who has been prosecuting the government's inquiry into the Standard Oil company, were near neighbors, though not at the same table. Andrew Carnegie and John Mitchell sat side by side. The notable throng of men and women brought together by the Federation led Mr. Taft, who was the principal speaker of the evening, to remark that he had been sitting with company with which it hardly would have been well for him to associate with prior to the election. He then declared that all that had hap-

pened before the election was as a closed book to him and he would be the president of all the people. Mr. Taft was the last of eight speakers. Those who preceded him were Mr. Low, who acted as toastmaster, and Messrs. Mitchell, Gompers, Carnegie, Belmont, Ingalls and Garrettsen. Mr. Taft spoke entirely extemporaneously and briefly. Much had been said during the evening concerning the problem of the 'twilight zone,' where state jurisdiction ends and federal authority begins. The Sherman anti-trust law had been attacked by Mr. Ingalls, who assailed it as an antiquated measure which should be entirely driven from the statute books. Mr. Taft came to the rescue of the Sherman law and said that while he believed with others that certain amendments were necessary he would be opposed to any attempt at its repeal. As to the 'twilight zone' and its problems, Mr. Taft declared the country had gotten along very well under the constitution and he believed it would continue to find that instrument all wise and indispensable. 'It is a great pleasure to be here tonight,' said Mr. Taft. 'Looking about me, I see some who before election, it would not have been well for me to associate with, but with the mixture that is here tonight the association is entirely safe. I am a great believer in the efficiency of the National Civic Federation. I believe that most of our differences and our controversies are really the result of misunderstandings which would entirely disappear if the contending forces could be brought together.'

An Associated Press dispatch from Chicago says: "At the opening of the second day's hearing before Interstate Commerce Commissioner Lane concerning the complaint of George S. Loftus that the rates on sleeping car berths are exorbitant a demand was made on the Pullman company for a statement showing the percentage of berths occupied annually by persons holding passes. The demand, which was made by Attorney Manahan, representing the complainant, was vigorously opposed by Attorney Fernald for the Pullman company. After considerable argument Commissioner Lane ruled that the company should produce the desired information and instructed William Hough, assistant auditor of the Pullman company who had been recalled to the stand today, to furnish the statement."

Dr. B. T. Galloway of the United States bureau of plant inquiry declares that print paper can be made from corn stalks.

Turkey has a new constitutional government. A Constantinople cablegram says: "The new parliament elected under the constitution promulgated by the sultan last July was opened and everything passed off without the slightest disorder. Any fear that the sultan may have had as to the temper of his subjects was dispelled by the ample display of enthusiasm. The fact that the sultan came out openly to meet his people on the occasion has gone a long way toward removing the effects of past evils attributed to the palace rule, while the grand vizier, Kiamil Pasha, who insisted on the sultan's coming by the road which passes through the European quarter of Pera and Stamboul, thus bringing the sovereign into contact with the masses, has shown his great wisdom, and has by this move secured further success in the consolidation of the constitutional regime."

John D. Rockefeller, Jr., has caused the arrest of the business manager and two other employees of Hearst's New York American on the charge of criminal libel. The American printed a dispatch from Chicago

under the headline, "J. D. Rockefeller, Jr., originated peonage in stockade, it is said."

President-elect Taft is spending the Christmas season at Augusta, Ga.

General Antoine Simon, the leader of the last revolution in Hayti, has been elected president to succeed Nord Alexis.

Senator Bourne has introduced a bill providing for an increase in the salary of the president of the United States from \$50,000 to \$100,000, and the salary of the vice president from \$12,000 to \$25,000. Should the bill pass it will take effect with the beginning of Mr. Taft's administration.

The First National bank of Somersworth, N. H., closed its doors because of a defalcation estimated at \$85,000. The cashier has been arrested.

The citizens State Bank at Napoleon, Ohio, filed a deed of assignment. The failure is due to over loans.

Nikolai A. Khomyakoff, president of the Russian duma, has resigned. The resignation was due to a heated discussion over the inquisitorial methods employed with respect to political prisoners. He was persuaded to withdraw his resignation.

The people of Venezuela went through the streets of Caracas wrecking the property of President Castro's friends. They rounded up all statues and pictures of Castro and burned them on the plaza. Castro is in Berlin.

A Berne, Switzerland, cablegram says: "A. Deutscher, minister of commerce, was elected president of the Swiss republic for 1909 by the federal assembly. He will succeed Dr. F. C. Brenner, whose term of office expires January 1."

An Associated Press dispatch from Portland, Ore., December 17, says: "Oregon Railroad and Navigation train No. 1, known as 'the Chicago-Portland Special,' was held up and the express car dynamited by four unmasked robbers shortly after 9 o'clock tonight, nine miles east of Portland. Express Messenger O. H. Huff said the robbers secured little of value."

President-elect Taft has announced that Senator P. C. Knox of Pennsylvania will be secretary of state in the Taft cabinet. New York dispatches say that George W. Wickersham of New York, famous as an attorney for the Belmont transportation system, will be Mr. Taft's attorney general.

Representative Theodore Burton of Ohio insists upon being a candidate for senator against Charles P. Taft and a New York dispatch carried by the Associated Press says: "It was authoritatively announced (Continued on Page 14)"

Xmas Eating and Drinking

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